



Resource Management Commission

July 15, 2014

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dielmann at 6:32 p.m. Commissioners Biedrzycki, Hsieh, Kelly and Krishna were also in attendance. Commissioner Amato was not present at the Call to Order but arrived in time to participate in the approval of the June 17, 2014 meeting minutes. Commissioner Metzger was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve minutes of the April 15, May 20, and June 17, 2014 regular meetings.
Motion to approve minutes of the April 15, 2014 meeting (Dielmann), seconded (Hsieh), passed on a vote of 4-0-1 with Kelly abstaining. Motion to approve minutes of the May 20, 2014 meeting (Biedrzycki), seconded (Kelly), passed on a vote of 5-0. Motion to approve minutes of the June 17, 2014 meeting (Dielmann), seconded (Krishna), passed on a vote of 6-0.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS – Deena Estrada, City Boards & Commissions Coordinator, thanked members for discussing the Boards & Commissions Transition Task Force recommendations (Item 10). She reminded members to submit a Commitment Form indicating their interest in continuing service on the RMC until June 2015.

NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT ITEMS

Items 6-8 were pulled from the consent agenda for discussion; votes on those items are noted below. Motion to recommend approval of consent Items 2-5 (Kelly); seconded (Krishna); passed on vote of 6-0.

2. Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with AISD Performing Arts Center, to provide a performance-based incentive for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 1500 Barbara Jordan Blvd., Austin, Texas 78723, for an estimated \$9,077 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$90,766 over a 10-year period.
3. Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with General Motors, to provide a performance-based incentive for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 7401 E. Ben White Blvd., Bldg. 3, Austin, Texas 78741, for an estimated \$38,020 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$380,202 over a 10-year period.
4. Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with General Motors, to provide a performance-based incentive for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 717 E. Parmer Lane, Austin, Texas 78753, for an estimated \$38,054 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$380,537 over a 10-year period.

5. Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Lakeway Floors, to provide a performance-based incentive for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 911 Ranch Road 620 N., Austin, Texas 78734, for an estimated \$11,449 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$114,488 over a 10-year period.
6. Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with PSW, to provide a performance-based incentive for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 2501 Thornton Road, Austin, Texas 78704, for an estimated \$26,914 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$269,137 over a 10-year period. **Motion to recommend approval (Dielmann); seconded (Hsieh); passed on vote of 6-0.**
7. Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Austin/Austin Energy and Austin Community College for collaboration on the Central Texas Fuel Independence Project under a Clean Cities Implementation Initiatives to Advance Alternative Fuels Market grant from the Department of Energy, for an amount not to exceed \$100,000. **Motion to recommend approval (Dielmann); seconded (Kelly); passed on vote of 6-0.**
8. Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a contract with DIRECTAPPS, INC. DBA DIRECT TECHNOLOGY, or another qualified offeror to RFP No. GAL0018, for the purchase and implementation of a new workflow automation software solution for Austin Energy's energy efficiency and solar rebate programs, in an amount not to exceed \$798,000 with hosting and support services for one 24-month period in an amount not to exceed \$396,000 and three 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$198,000 per extension option, for a total amount not to exceed \$1,788,000. **Motion to recommend approval (Biedrzycki); seconded (Kelly); passed on vote of 6-0.**

NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding Austin Water Utility's CIP Projects located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone per financial policy – Presentation by Kristi Fenton and Martin Tower of the Austin Water Utility. **Motion to recommend approval of the Drinking Water Protection Zone projects related to new water and wastewater plants, capital expansions and growth-related projects to be included in the AWU's five-year Capital Improvement Program (Dielmann); seconded (Krishna); passed on a vote of 6-0.**

Commissioners decided to hear the briefings (Items 11 and 12) before Item 10.

BRIEFINGS

11. Austin Water Utility: Water Conservation Program 3rd Quarter FY2014 Update by Mark Jordan, Conservation Program Coordinator.
12. Austin Energy: Briefing regarding payment agreements, arrearage management and utility hearings processes by Jawana "J. J. Gutierrez, Vice President, Customer Care.

NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)

10. Review and possible action regarding the Boards & Commissions Transition Task Force recommendations on changes to membership, purpose and processes referenced in Sections 2-4 of their report: <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=209716>

Commissioners reviewed Section 2, specifically the following two subsections of 2.C. Groups to be considered for creation or re-assignment:

“C1. Joint Sustainability Committee. This new committee would take over the responsibilities of the RMC through which different components of sustainability are blended and expanded. Suggested number of members: 7 recruited from the Planning Commission, Economic Prosperity Commission, Water & Wastewater Commission, Community Development Commission, Zero Waste Commission, Environmental Commission and Electric Utility Commission.”

C5. Resource Management Commission. Responsibilities for the RMC will go to the new Sustainability Commission.”

Commissioners requested that the following comments be submitted via an online survey to be compiled by the Office of the City Clerk and presented to City Council:

- The RMC strongly recommends creation of a Sustainability Commission, not a joint committee. As with the RMC, Council should appoint members with expertise on energy efficiency, renewable energy and water conservation directly to a Sustainability Commission.
- As a body, a joint Sustainability Committee would have no standing with City Council meaning Council would have no advisory board or commission to advise them on issues of sustainability.
- Replacing the RMC with a joint committee would not decrease staff time and support because reports and briefings would have to be made to one or more of the 7 commissions and the committee.
- There would be no single body acting as the city’s stewards of water and energy conservation, clean air, and climate protection.
- At a minimum there is a perceived conflict of interest for a utility commission with advisory responsibility for fiduciary and operational advice that is also supposed to advise on environmental, social and conservation measures that could negatively impact the finances of the utility.

Commissioner Krishna left the dais.

ROUNDTABLE

13. Updates from Commissioners on activities of interest, including an update from Commissioners Biedrzycki and Hsieh regarding the Austin Generation Resource Planning Task Force – Commissioners discussed several recommendations included in the Task Force report.
14. Requests for future agenda items – Chair Dielmann said he would like to hear Austin Energy’s response to the Task Force report and said he would contact the Chair of the EUC regarding a possible joint meeting on the subject.

ADJOURN – Chair Dielmann adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.